presence of the loop over a departing link set to a destination signaling point by at least one of a routing test and a real time method; and

automatically withholding a transfer of said signaling messages via a pertinent linkset to said destination signaling points upon a positive check result outcome of said checking step.

11. A method according to claim 10, further comprising the steps of:

sending test messages via a link set to destinations that said linkset can reach upon said positive check result outcome; and

automatically withholding transfer of said signaling messages to a destination that had returning test messages upon return of said test messages.

12. A method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of:

withholding transfer of said signaling messages to downstream pertinent destinations by blocking a specific departing link set of said pertinent destination in a routing table of said signaling transfer point.

13. A method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of:

withholding transfer of said signaling messages to upstream pertinent destinations via the pertinent link set by sending transfer prohibiting messages by the signaling transfer point regarding a destination signaling point to a preceding signaling transfer point, where upon said preceding signaling transfer point will at least perform one of a functions of rerouting traffic to the destination signaling point and stopping said traffic to the destination signaling point.

14. A method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of:

controlling an interruption of said loop by an operations maintenance and

administration part.

15. A method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of:
controlling an interruption of said loop by a message transfer part.

16. A method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of:
checking a new current route for absence of loops in the signaling transfer point, immediately after blocking a linkset in said loop.

17. A signaling system of a signaling transfer point, comprising:
a checker for detection of at least a loop or a possibility of a presence of said loop over a departing linkset to a destination signaling point, said checker utilizes at least one of a routing test and a real time method, wherein when a positive check result outcome is obtained transfer of signaling messages via pertinent linksets are automatically withheld.

18. A signaling system according to claim 17, further comprising:
a verifier for detection of said possibility of the presence of said loop, said verifier sends test messages to destinations reachable via said departing linkset before said signaling system withholds said transfer of signaling messages to a destination for which said test messages return.

IN THE ABSTRACT

In line 1, change "Abstract" to --Abstract of the Disclosure--;

delete lines 2 - 7, and insert the following --

A method for detecting loops and/or the possibility of an existing loop in a signaling system 7 network by a routing test (MRVT) and/or by a real time